IN THE MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS
WESTERN DISTRICT

COMPLETE TITLE OF CASE

STATE OF MISSOURI,

Respondent,

v.

JARVIS T. WILLIAMS,

Appellant.

DOCKET NUMBER WD71136

MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS
WESTERN DISTRICT

DATE: November 2, 2010

APPEAL FROM

The Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri
The Honorable Edith L. Messina, Judge

APPELLATE JUDGES

Division Two: Joseph M. Ellis, Presiding Judge, and Alok Ahuja and Karen King Mitchell, Judges

ATTORNEYS

Chris Koster, Attorney General
Jayne T. Woods, Assistant Attorney General
Jefferson City, MO

Attorneys for Respondent,

Rosemary E. Percival, Assistant Public Defender
Kansas City, MO

Attorney for Appellant.

MISSOURI APPELLATE COURT OPINION SUMMARY
MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS, WESTERN DISTRICT

STATE OF MISSOURI,   )
)

                   Respondent,   )

v.   )
)

JARVIS T. WILLIAMS,   )
)

                    Appellant.   )

WD71136   Jackson County

Before Division Two Judges: Joseph M. Ellis, Presiding Judge, and Alok Ahuja and Karen King Mitchell, Judges

      Jarvis T. Williams appeals the trial court's judgment convicting him, after jury trial, of one count of second-degree murder, three counts of first-degree assault, and four counts of armed criminal action. On appeal, Williams claims that the trial court plainly erred by effectively closing the courtroom during jury selection.

      AFFIRMED.

Division Two holds:

      In this case, Williams's trial counsel not only failed to object to the trial court's exclusion of certain persons from the courtroom, but he requested that the courtroom be closed to everyone but the defendant and counsel during jury selection. This was Williams's counsel's attempt to ensure that Williams received a fair trial by having an untainted jury decide his case. Counsel's decision served to waive Williams's constitutional right to a public trial for the purposes of jury selection. We also hold that Williams lacked standing under the facts of this case to assert the public's and press's right to an open and public trial.

Opinion by: Karen King Mitchell, Judge   November 2, 2010

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